

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)
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 Nobuaki USUI, et al.)
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 Application No.: New)
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 Filed: September 22, 2000)
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 CPA Filing Date (*if applicable*):)
)
)
 For: HALFTONING METHOD AND APPARATUS,)
 AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING)
 MEDIUM IN WHICH HALFTONING)
 PROGRAM IS RECORDED)

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 Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Vida, Melanie
 Examiner: Unassigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
 - 1a. Form PTO-1449.
 - 1b. Copies of IDS citations.
 - 1c. An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
 - 1d. English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
 - 1e. Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
 - 1f. List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
2. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:

(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)

 - 2a. satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed English language copy of the PCT International Search Report or the search report

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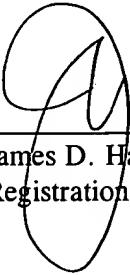
from a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. (See U.S. Patent & Trademark Office's authorization in the Federal Register, Vol. 57, No. 12, January 17, 1992, at page 2031 (Reply to Comment 68).)

- 2b. [] set forth in the application.
 - 2c. [X] satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
 - 2d. [] enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

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PRIOR ART INFORMATION LIST

Your case No.	
Our case No.	FC.460.9951700-US

Inventor, Patent Number, Country, Author, Title, Name of Document	Issue Date	Concise Explanation of the Relevance (indication of page, column, line, figure of the relevant portion)
a) T. Holladay, et al. "HYBRID QUANTIZATION METHOD FOR COLOR DOCUMENT REPRODUCTION," Japanese Patent Laid-Open (Kokai) HEI 07-274015 Laid-Open Date: October 20, 1995		Corresponds to US 5,394,252
b) K. BALSER, et al. "IMPROVED METHOD FOR MAKING FREQUENCY MODULATED HALFTONE," Japanese Patent Laid-Open (Kokai) HEI 06-070144 Laid-Open Date: March 11, 1994		
c) L. RAY "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING SIMULTANEOUSLY DERIVED CORRELATED DIGITAL HALFTONE PATTERNS," Japanese Patent Laid-Open (Kokai) HEI 06-006586 Laid-Open Date: January 14, 1994		Corresponds to US 5,754,311
d) K. SCHEUTER, et al. "METHOD FOR PRODUCING PRINTING FORMS WITH IRREGULARLY DISTRIBUTED PRINTING POINTS," Japanese Patent Laid-Open (Kokai) SHO 58-189641 Laid-Open Date: November 5, 1983		Corresponds to US 4,485,397

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